



CrimeWatch

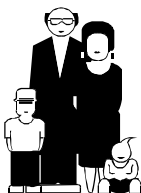
Halloween Issue

October 2000

"EXCELLENCE IN PROTECTION"

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

POINTERS For PARENTS



Halloween may be a fun holiday for kids, but for parents, trick-or-treat time can be a little tricky. Concerns about children's safety__whether they are out in the neighborhood or back home with bags of booty__can darken the day more quickly than a **black cat**.



FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

FPS

OKLAHOMA CITY - 1995

"FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS"

THIS ISSUE

[Halloween Safety.](#)
[Pointers for Parents.](#)
[Halloween Jokes.](#)
[GSA, Helping to Find Missing Children.](#)
[Quotes on Trust.](#)
[The New FPS.](#)
[Travel Tips.](#)
[Help Desk.](#)



But not to worry! To make Halloween a treat for all, follow these safety tips:

MAKE SURE YOUR KIDS DRESS UP SAFELY



Check that the costumes are flame retardant so the little ones aren't in danger near burning jack-o-lanterns and other fire hazards.

Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.



Try make-up instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable and, more importantly, they can obstruct a child's vision—a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down steps. Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.

Trick-or-treaters always should be in-groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.

MAKE TRICK-OR-TREATING TROUBLE FREE

Make sure older kids trick-or-treat with friends. Together, map out a safe route so parents know where they'll be. Tell them to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.

Try to get your kids to trick-or-treat while it's still light out. If it's dark, make sure someone has a flashlight and pick well-lighted streets.

Make sure kids know not to enter strange houses or stranger's cars.

CONSIDER THIS



Parents and kids can avoid trick-or-treating troubles entirely by organizing a Halloween costume party with treats, games, contests, music, scary stories, and much more. Make your Halloween party the place to be! Schools, fire fighters, libraries, or civic groups in many communities organize “haunted houses” and other Halloween festivities for families.



TREATS

Kids need to know not to eat their treats until they get home. One way to keep trick-or-treaters from digging in while they're still out is to feed them a meal or a snack beforehand.

Check out all treats at home in a well-lighted place.



What to eat? Only unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers. Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade goodies for anything suspicious. By all means, remind kids not to eat everything at once or they'll be feeling pretty ghoulish for awhile!



DRESSED UP AND DANGEROUS

Halloween blood and gore are harmless stuff for the most part. But sometimes dressing up as a superhero, a swashbuckling pirate, or an alien from outer space—coupled with the excitement of Halloween—brings out aggressive behavior. Even fake knives, swords, guns, and other costume accessories can hurt people. If these objects are part of a child's costume, make sure they are made from cardboard or other flexible materials. Better yet, challenge kids to create costumes that don't need "weapons" to be scary and fun.



IF YOU DRIVE ON HALLOWEEN



Remember, children can be so focused on the excitement of the event that they forget all about safety. Parents/other motorists need to be extra alert. So! Stay alert and drive slowly on residential streets. Use caution on streets where cars are parked along the side of the road. Eager trick-or-treaters could suddenly dash out into traffic from behind parked cars.



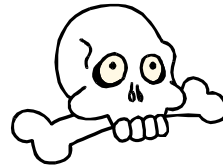
MCGRUFF AND SCRUFF'S HALLOWEEN JOKES

What do momma birds pass out on Halloween?



TWEETS

What do you call a skeleton who refuses to help around the house?



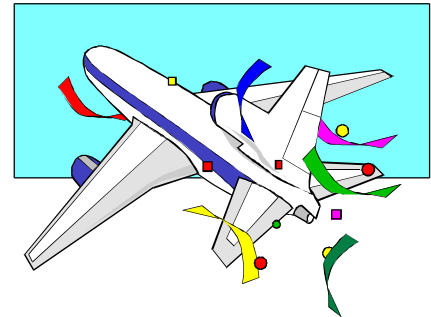
LAZYBONES

How do you know if a ghost is lying?



YOU CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH HIM

How do ghosts get from city to city?



ON A SCAREPLANE

A Special Thank-You to the National Crime Prevention Council for their Halloween Safety tips.



September 13, 2000

The Honorable Mac
Thornberry
House of
Representatives
Washington, DC
20515

Dear Representative
Thornberry:

Thank you for your letter of
August 28, 2000,
concerning the cost
associated with distributing
Missing Children Posters by
the General Services
Administration (GSA).

In January 1997, President
Clinton directed Federal
agencies to post notices of
missing children in
Government buildings. As
the landlord for more than
2,000 of these buildings,
GSA has played an
important role in responding
to this critical need. GSA
has worked with the
National Center for Missing
and Exploited Children
(NCMEC) to develop a way
to post 10 pictures of

missing children in our
major Federal buildings and
update them on a monthly
basis.

GSA is currently posting
Missing Children Notices in
255 leased and 617 owned
Federal buildings, and
operating 36 computer
kiosk displays in the lobbies
and Post Offices of public
Federal buildings
throughout the country.
The Greater Southwest
Region is by far the leader in
posting notices with 83
leased and 127 owned
buildings, and 22 computer
kiosks operating in the
region. The children posted
in the GSA program are
recent victims of abduction
by strangers, or "runaways"
through the age of 17 that
are considered high risk
because of medical
problems or other issues.
GSA does not post children
abducted by family
members or involved in
custodial issues unless
requested by parents at the
local level. All of the
children in the August 2000
postings, which were
released in the Greater
Southwest Region on
August 8, were reported
missing in July and August
of 2000.

The majority of posters are
sent electronically to the
regional or field offices
where they are printed and
posted in the local buildings.

The Greater Southwest
Region currently distributes
posters to 210 Federal
buildings. We also send out
22 FEDEX packages to
remote locations, which
covers 48 buildings that do
not have the equipment or
manpower to produce the
color posters at their
location. The contract
between GSA and Federal
Express provides for
substantial discounts for
using this service. A
FEDEX package up to 8
ounces is \$3.62 for next day
delivery anywhere in the
continental United States.
The U.S. Postal Service
charges \$1.87 for the same
8 ounces that is sent by first
class mail and takes several
days. The program cost to
FEDEX our posters for
September 2000 were
\$79.64 to cover the 48
buildings, resulting in a pro
rata cost of \$1.66 per
building.

While it may cost a little
more to distribute the
posters by FEDEX than by
regular mail, the advantages
to a rapid distribution can
lead to early recognition and
recovery. **In 1999, 77 of
the 120 children featured
in the GSA postings were
recovered alive;** 20 of
those recoveries happened
within 10 days of our
postings. GSA has been
recognized by the National
Center for Missing and

Exploited Children as a leader in the effort to recover children, and we believe the success of this program is due in part to the rapid distribution of posters to our buildings.

If more information is needed regarding this issue, our Missing Children Program Coordinator, Mr. B. J. Upton, is available to provide whatever you may need. Mr. Upton can be contacted at 817-978-8451.

Sincerely,

W. Leighton Waters
Assistant Regional
Administrator
Public Buildings Service



“QUOTES” ON TRUST:



To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved.__J. Macdonald.

The soul and spirit that animates and keeps up society is mutual trust.__South.

I think that we may safely trust a good deal more than we do. We may waive just so much care of ourselves as we honestly bestow elsewhere.__Thoreau.

The man who trusts men will make fewer mistakes than he who distrusts them.__Cavour.

**Quotes taken from the
Dictionary of Thoughts, A
Cyclopedia of Laconic
Quotations from the best
authors of the world, both
ancient and modern.**

__Copyright 1904

COMMISSIONER PECK'S PERSPECTIVE

THE NEW FPS

It goes almost without saying that we have no more important responsibility than providing for the security of the tenants and visitors in our buildings. As I've said before, however, we need to provide that security while maintaining friendly, inviting public buildings. This is no easy task! Since the heinous bombing of the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, we've—

- Tripled our spending on security to about \$250 million per year;
- Doubled the number of uniformed Federal Protective Officers to about 650;
- Doubled the number of contract guards to about 5,500; and
- Improved our security in qualitative ways that go beyond numbers.

Many in FPS are embracing these changes, while others would like to see FPS divorced from PBS and made an independent arm of GSA.

The objective of “The New FPS” is for FPS to become the best facilities security organization in the world. The principal mission is building security—to protect tenants and visitors from violence and disorder.

Clarence Edwards, Assistant Commissioner for FPS and a veteran police officer, says, “FPS is not a police organization; it is a facility security organization with law enforcement authority.”

To carry out our mission, we are changing training, job definitions, and tactics. We have created a new FPS position—the Law Enforcement and Security Officer—which will become the core position in FPS.

We already have about 75 on board and another 100 LESO positions are in the recruitment process. Not coincidentally, the new position starts and tops out at GS levels above the general FPS officer position. We have tried, unsuccessfully, to get OPM to upgrade the GS levels under the current FPO position description. I urge current FPS officers and PSS's to apply for the LESO positions. This is a great opportunity. LESO's get both full law enforcement and physical security training. LESO's

carry weapons and have full arrest authority. They wear police uniforms or plain clothes, depending on the circumstances. Their job is to take clear charge of security in a given geographical area—to oversee physical precautions and to deal with emergencies. LESO's will extend our protective services to locations not previously covered.

We have added a special 2-week FPS orientation course to the 8-week basic police training our recruits get at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, GA. We call it “customer oriented policing” and it means that our officers—both LESO's and FPO's—will spend more time in and around the buildings we lease and operate. Two great side effects of this are:

1. Our customers, who pay security surcharges that partially fund FPS, will actually see more of our highly-qualified, in-house security experts, and
2. We can convert our tenants into more effective “eyes and ears” to alert us to possible problems, whether

malfunctioning equipment or workplace situations that pose a threat.

We have deployed a terrific new software package for use by our PSS's and LESO's in identifying the threats against each of our locations and evaluating how to respond to those threats. Our Criminal Investigators have all received “intelligence analysis training” and are doing highly effective liaison with the Federal intelligence-gathering agencies, like the FBI. In addition, they are being trained in the new Regional Threat Assessment Methodology. We've also upgraded our secure communications equipment and the requirements in our contract guard contracts, and put FPS police officers in charge of monitoring training quality.

In all of this training and job redefinition, we are acknowledging that our security personnel are like their other PBS colleagues: there will never be enough of us to do all of the hands-on work we need to get the job done. Rather, PBS employees do inherently governmental work, manage contractors, and use technology to multiply our capacity.

I oppose making FPS a separate arm of GSA, principally, because it would divorce security from other Federal building functions when the opposite needs to be the case. Security needs to be tightly integrated into decisions about the location, design, and operation of Federal buildings. Divorcing FPS would create an organizational barrier between protection experts and the PBS asset managers, project managers, and building managers who set PBS budgets and policies for our inventory as a whole, and who oversee the day-to-day operations in our buildings.

The security we provide is financed from rent revenues collected by PBS from our building tenants. Those tenants understandably look directly to PBS for responses to their security questions and needs. A separate GSA security service would be confusing to them and would lead to confusion about who is responsible for what in GSA's security efforts.

The relationship between FPS and PBS is like that of the U.S. Park Police and the National Park Service. The Park Police are a component of the National Park Service and not a separate bureau of the Department of the Interior.

The Park Police patrol and protect properties that fall under the auspices of the Park Service, just as FPS patrols and protects properties under the auspices of PBS. We do need to improve communication among the management and personnel of FPS and the management and personnel in the rest of PBS. Speaking of which, it's been great to see FPS people getting involved in and sometimes taking charge of First Impressions projects.

TRAVEL TIPS



Before you leave

Preventing crime during family travel starts with making sure your home is protected while you're away. The key is to make it look like you never left:

- Keep shades and blinds in their normal positions.

- Stop mail and newspapers, or ask a neighbor to pick them up every day.
- Put several household lights on timers so they turn on and off at appropriate times.
- Arrange to have grass mowed (or snow shoveled) while you're gone.
- Make sure all your door and window locks are in working order - and use them.
- Activate your home alarm (if you have one).

You might even leave a radio on - or put it on a timer. Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway overnight - anything that might suggest someone's home. And don't forget to lock all doors and windows when you leave.

THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE IS 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) AND THE TDD NUMBER FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED IS 1-800-787-3224. "HELP BUILD AWARENESS AND PREVENT VIOLENCE."



THE NORTHWEST FPS TEAM

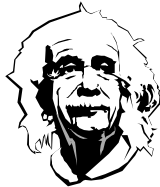


**SERVING NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON**

**REPORT ALL
SUSPICIOUS
ACTIVITIES TO THE
FEDERAL PROTECTIVE
SERVICE**



**WE'LL DO
MORE THAN
JUST LEND AN
EAR
HELP DESK**



**The following Federal
Protective Service
employees are available
to help you.**

Chief, Protection Operations Northern District

- Karen Gaston (253) 931 7838

PSS Leader/Facilitator Southern District

- Jim Carnegie (253) 931-7257

Physical Security Specialists



SEATTLE, WA

- Smokey" Forster
(206) 220-6636

AUBURN, WA)

- Dave White (253) 931-7870
- Terry Muller (253) 931-7299

TACOMA, WA

Fredaline Healy (253) 593-6749

Criminal Investigator



- Mike Walley (206) 220 6633
Electronic Security Specialist



- Bob Griffin (206) 220-5087

Federal Police Officers



(206) 764-6725/6726

- Major Don Laughlin:
- Sgt. Oddi Mefford
- Sgt. John Haverty
- Officer Ed McNamara
- Officer Rick Day:
- Officer Tim Young:
- Officer Larry McConnell

Federal Police Officer

TACOMA, WA

- Officer Rich Reilley
(253) 593-6647

REGIONAL CONTROL CENTER

(253) 804-4800 - 24 hours